AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1214 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1934 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 24, NO. 29

The philosophy of one century is the common-sense of the next. —H. W. Beecher.

Editorials

Federal Relief for Destitute Strikers

Bourbon employers in industrial regions where working men and women strike to preserve their economic liberties and maintain decent living standards howl their heads off because local relief agencies use Federal relief funds to keep destitute strikers and their families alive.

A number of months ago Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Relief Administrator, announced in unmistakable language the policy of the Relief Administration on this question. He said:

"The Federal and State Emergency Relief Administrations are concerned with providing relief to the unemployed who are in need.

"It is not their responsibility to decide the merits of any wage controversy in which strikers may be involved.

"Federal and State courts and labor departments exist to arbitrate such disputes. During any strikes counties administering Federal funds are expected to provide relief to families of the unemployed regardless of whether they are on strike or not until such time as the National Labor Board of the National Recovery Administration has passed upon the merits of the strikers' claims."

This statement is based on sound reasoning. Starving the workers and their families is the favorite method used by antiunion employers, still animated by the principles of the "Old Deal," to bring to their knees those who do practically all of the useful work in industry. The suffering caused by hunger, these employers say, will crush any strike and compel the desperate workers to beg for jobs at any price.

The inhuman policy of these reactionaries is materially crimped by the declaration of the Government that it will not be a party to such barbarism, and that destitute men, women, and children, wherever found, will be given relief from Federal funds regardless of the means by which their distress has become acute.

Mayor Bacharach's Brainstorm

The International Association of Fire Fighters and the New Jersey State Federation of Labor are endeavoring to organize the firemen of Atlantic City into a bona fide American Federation of Labor union.

This action arouses the belligerent opposition of Mayor Harry Bacharach, who declares his firm conviction that "firemen of any municipality as such have no right to be affiliated with any union."

It is regrettable that the Mayor of Atlantic City should take such a reactionary position. Municipal firemen, like other workers, are confronted with the economic questions of wages, hours and work conditions generally. Individually they can achieve but little in maintaining and improving their living standards. Organized in a bona fide union, with competent officials to represent them, they can achieve much in this direction. Moreover, their organization, their consciousness of the fact that they are a part of the organized labor movement, furnishes a stimulus to the work of protecting the public from devastating fires which is absent when they are under the dictatorship of fire department chiefs with no organization to speak effectually for them.

Evidently Mayor Bacharach does not know that municipal firemen are organized in locals of the International Association of Fire Fighters in 227 cities in the United States and Canada. Practically all of the fire department officials in these cities speak in the highest terms of the cooperation which the fire fighters' locals give the officials in the work of the fire departments.

Mayor Bacharach should rescue himself from the embrace of Rip Van Winkle, get in touch with the changed world of the New Deal, and tell the Atlantic City firemen that if they know what is for their own best interests they will enroll as a body in the Atlantic City local of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

Hugh Frayne, A. F. of L. Organizer In New York for 33 Years, Dies at 64

Awarded Distinguished Service Medal by Congress for War Work—Once Worked as Breaker Boy in Mines.

New York.—Hugh Frayne, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor here for the last 33 years, died at Wickersham Hospital after an illness of several months. He was 64 years old.

During the World War period, Mr. Frayne was chairman of the labor division of the War Industries Board. In 1923 Congress created his work in that capacity with the award of the Distinguished Service Medal.

Mr. Frayne was also responsible for the nation-wide movement for saving waste material as a war-winning help, and suggested the plan of having soldiers in training camps grow their own vegetables.

Helped Crippled Soldiers

From the beginning of the war Mr. Frayne took a deep interest in the welfare of the military and naval forces. He induced the Government to adopt the plan of re-educating crippled soldiers and sailors in vocational lines so that the man-power of the nation maimed by war also could be saved, he claimed. He fostered many plans for utilizing the labor of prisoners, including one in which a national work system for prisoners was established. He effected as far as possible a standardization of industries and occupations in penal institutions.

He was a vice president of the national committee on prisons and prison labor. In 1920 the gold medal of the committee was awarded him for his work in this field.

Just before the War Industries Board was dissolved Mr. Frayne made an attempt to have the labor division retained as a national body with governmental backing to handle the problems of labor. This idea he failed to put across, but he lived to see it come into being under the National Recovery Administration.

Was Breaker Boy

Mr. Frayne was born in Scranton, Pa., on November 8, 1869, the son of Michael and Grace Decon Frayne, who had come to America from Ireland in 1850. When he was 8 years old he went to work as a breaker boy in the anthracite mines. Later he learned the sheet metal trade.

In his early life he joined the Knights of Labor, forerunner of the American Federation of Labor. In August, 1897, when the sheet metal workers formed a union, he became a charter member. In 1900 he was named general vice president of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' International Alliance, continuing in that position until 1904. Meanwhile, in 1901, he was appointed organizer for the American Federation of Labor in New York, serving as such until his death.

Friend of the Workers

During his entire life Mr. Frayne was active in all matters affecting the conditions of workers. He helped promote the eight-hour day, with one day of rest each week, and promoted and supported child labor legislation. Other measures urged by him provided for war risk insurance, proper housing for workers, health hygiene, fire prevention, factory sanitation, the elimination of hazards in factories and the prevention of occupational diseases.

Mr. Frayne married on November 8, 1893, Miss Mary E. Cawley of Scranton. Mrs. Frayne and two of three sons born to them survive.

Mr. Frayne's body was taken to Scranton, where he maintained his home. Funeral services were held there in Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church.

Texas Traction Company Fired Union Men In Violation of Recovery Act, Is Claim

Fort Worth, Tex.—Vice President Peyroux of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America, at a mass meeting of representative citizens held under the auspices of the Fort Worth Trades Assembly, charged officials of the Northern Texas Company with wholesale violation of the labor section of the National Industrial Recovery Act, which prohibits employers from discriminating against workers because of membership in trade unions.

It was claimed that some 15 men have been discharged, and that the effect of this had been to induce the workers from joining the Amalgamated. It was charged that the company had resorted to intimidation, placed spotters on cars, and discharged officers of the union, some of them having been in the employ of the company many years.

A. J. Reinhard, a member of the San Antonio Regional Labor Board, called attention to the fact that the Regional Labor Board, reviewing the complaints, ordered nine men restored to employment, but that only five had been reemployed, four appealed, that some of the five restored had again been discharged.

These complaints against the company were supported by Wallace Reilly, secretary of the Texas State Association of Labor; Jack Coulter, secretary of the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America, and other well-known labor officials.

UNION PACIFIC COMPANY UNION IS KNOCKED OUT

Omaha, Neb.—The company union sponsored by officials of the Union Pacific Railway System went down to defeat in the poll held to select a collective bargaining agency for the employes. Joseph Beach, chairman of the general conference committee to supervise the balloting, announced that the American Federation of Labor unions received 4,285 votes, while the Shop Employes Association, by which name the company union promoted by railway officials was known, received only 3,155 votes. This vote was two to one in favor of emancipating the employes from both direct and indirect rule by the management.

Terrorism Established by Imperial Valley Officials and Growers, Glassford Says

Preachers, Lawyers and Other Professional Men Silenced by Fear of Boycott and Violence

Wholly illegal and absolutely vicious terrorism has been established by county officials of the Imperial Valley, Calif., in conspiracy with those who own and control the fruit and vegetable farms, according to the report on economic conditions made by Gen. Pelham Glassford, appointed by the Federal Government to investigate economic conditions in the Valley.

"It is my conviction," Gen. Glassford said, "that a group of growers have exploited a Communist hysteria for the advancement of their own interests; that they have welcomed labor agitation which they could brand as Red as a means of sustaining supremacy by mob rule, thereby preserving cheap labor; that they have created and are drawing into their conspiracy certain county officials, who have become the principal tools of their machine."

As an important step in restoring peaceful conditions, Gen. Glassford recommended the prompt removal from office of R. A. Harrigan, agricultural commissioner. In connection with this recommendation he emphasized the way the terrorism set up by county officials in combination with the growers' vigilantes had spread to all portions of the county, as follows:

"In my opinion," he said, "the agricultural commissioner has not always made impartial use of his powers.

"Several who claim to be victims of his tyranny have come to me with their stories. Fearing reprisal, they have exacted my promise not to reveal their names. Reputable clergymen, lawyers, business men and other citizens, who are informed me of their personal knowledge and observations, insisting upon a promise of confidence, for fear was their fear of retaliation, boycott or actual violence."

Idaho Metal Miners Win Wage Boost Case In Seattle Regional Labor Board's Ruling

Sunshine Company Found Guilty of Violating President's Agreement and Using Subterfuge to Frustrate Its Intent.

Pocatello, Idaho.—Local No. 18 of the International Union of Mill, Mine and Smelter Workers won a big victory for the North Idaho miners employed by the Sunshine Mine in the decision of the Seattle Regional Labor Board on the demand of the union for a wage increase and back pay which they claimed was due the miners because of illegal wage reductions which the company, a signatory of the President's Re-employment Agreement, made in connection with the establishment of the five-day week.

The Labor Board's decision found the officials of the company had violated both the letter and the spirit of the Re-employment Agreement and recommended that the company pay thousands of dollars du the miners in back wages from the date the plan went into in the fall of 1933.

According to "Idaho Labor," the official organ of the Idaho State Federation of Labor, the company raised the wages of its employes 50 cents on July 1, 1933, making the daily wage $4.25 instead of $3.75 which prevailed before the Re-employment Agreement went into effect. The president's Re-employment Agreement, made in connection with the establishment of the five-day week, provided that the company thousands of dollars du the miners in back wages from the date the plan went into effect in the fall of 1933.

According to "Idaho Labor," the official organ of the Idaho State Federation of Labor, the company raised the wages of its employes 50 cents on July 1, 1933, making the daily wage $4.25 instead of $3.75 which prevailed before the increase. In this manner, it claimed, the company signed the President's Agreement on August 20, 1933, the miners' wages then being $29.75 per week.

On August 21, 1933, the company announced a wage raise of 50 cents per day and established the five-day week. Under this decree miners were paid on only $23.75 per week, a loss of $6.

The miners' union protested without avail to company officials against this cut, even going to the annual stockholders meeting in order to present their demand for justice. Finally they took the case to the Seattle Regional Labor Board with the demand for an increase of $1.50 per day.

Company Reduced Wages

The Board's decision said:

"Has the Sunshine mine in violation of the President's Re-employment Agreement, reduced wages to the individual miners? It would seem that the testimony is overwhelming on this point, and we do find that, as a result of application of the 40-hour week by the defendant company, the wages of the individual miners have been reduced.

"Section 7 of the President's Re-employment Agreement reads as follows: 'Not to reduce the compensation for employment now in excess of the minimum wages hereby agreed to (notwithstanding that the hours worked in such employment may be reduced) and to increase the pay for such employment by an equitable adjustment for all pay schedules.'

Subterfuge Prohibited

"Section 8 is as follows: 'Not to use any subterfuge to frustrate the spirit and intent of this agreement which is, among other things, to increase employment by universal covenant, to remove obstructions to commerce and to shorten hours and to raise wages for the shorter week as a fighting basis.'

Back Wages Due Miners

"We recommend that the defendant pay to each of the individual miners in the employ of the mine as shown in weekly wages by reason of the reduction in income resulting from the application of the 40-hour week."

Turning to the question of an "adequate" wage for the metal miners, the board recommended that the Sunshine Company "ascertain and establish an adequate wage for miners. By adequate wage is meant a sufficient sum to take care of human necessities, provide for a suitable home, the ordinary amusements and pleasures, educate the children and furnish something for old age for a person of temperate, industrious and frugal habits."

Arizona Labor Wins Fight for Decent Minimum Wages on State Highway Work

Phoenix, Ariz.—Organized labor of Arizona won its fight for decent wage rates on State highway work when the Highway Commission here adopted a minimum wage scale for the State and its political subdivisions corresponding to the scale which organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor have set up.

In the Commission's scale the highest paid men are iron workers and riggers, who receive $1.25 per hour. The following workers are paid $1 per hour: Blacksmiths, carpenters, concrete finishers, dragline operators, mechanics, plant operators, painters, powdermen, pile driver engineers, steel setters, shovel operators, stonemasons.

Miscellaneous workers are paid the following rates in cents per hour: Bladesmen, 75; concrete mixers, 87½; crusher operators, 68¾, caterpillar operators, 75; common laborers, 50; compressor operators, 75; drillers, 68¾; jackhammers, 68¾; grader operators (helpers), 75¾; mixer operators, 87½; oil spreader operators, 75; pile driver helpers, 56; roller operators, 75; truck drivers, 68¾.

CINCINNATI WORKERS WIN DISPUTE WITH POWELL CO.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The employes of the William Powell Company Plant No. 2 in Cincinnati have won a victory in their struggle for better work conditions in the decision rendered by the Indianapolis Regional Labor Board. Samuel Hatcher, business agent of the Machinists' District Council and organizer of the American Federation of Labor, represented the employes in the settlement.

All striking employes shall be reinstated as rapidly as possible without prejudice. The wage scale in effect on May 10, 1934, shall prevail until wages data are received from the Code Authority. The hours of labor shall be eight hours per day and 40 hours per week. All overtime shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half and double time for Sundays and holidays. Seniority rights shall prevail in all cases of lay-offs and re-employment.

Officials of the company and chosen representatives of the employes shall meet to settle any disputes that may rise in the future. All matters on which representatives of the company and the employes cannot agree shall be referred to the Regional Labor Board, with the provision that there shall be no strike or lockout pending such negotiations.

ROCHESTER COOPERS WIN CONTRACT FROM BREWERS

Rochester, N. Y.—The Rochester local of the Coopers' International Union of North America won a good contract from the Rochester Brewing Association. The agreement includes, a wage scale of $35 for a 40-hour week, pay for holidays and time and one-half for overtime. Up to the present time the union had been operating under a verbal agreement and instead of being paid for overtime men were given time off.

The coopers struck for a new deal weeks by a threatened strike. In its original proposition the union asked $1 an hour for a 40-hour week and the restoration of the driving machines. Decision on the latter question was placed in the hands of the American Federation of Labor.

The new contract is automatically renewed unless objected to by either party for one year and is retroactive to April 1. It contains a compulsory arbitration clause which specifies that arbitration proceedings must be instituted within 15 days after notice has been given.

MEAT CUTTERS' UNION WINS IN CUDAHY COMPANY POLL

Wichita, Kans.—The Cudahy Packing Company's company union scheme went down to defeat when the employes by a vote of 164 to 12 voted in favor of the Wichita Local of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America as their collective bargaining agency.

The company exercised considerable influence to restrain employes from voting and many members of the "Plant Committee" were in official positions used by the Cudahy outfit to describe its company union, did not vote.

This boycott of the election, however, did not defeat the purpose of the poll.

Under the rulings of the National Labor Board, this boycott of the election did not defeat the purposes of the poll, the board having declared on a number of occasions that the representative election is an official action of employes of a firm or plant, regardless of the number voting, is the recognized collective bargaining agency.

The poll was taken under the direction of R. L. Blume, executive secretary of the Kansas City Regional Labor Board.

CALIFORNIA POLITICIANS ARE QUESTIONED BY LABOR

San Francisco, Calif.—Candidates for the California State Legislature will be asked to state their positions and views on measures of interest to working men and women, according to a list of 20 questions which the executive council of the State Federation of Labor has prepared for presentation to law makers. Every candidate is asked to express his views on each of the following eight questions:

1. Do you favor the enactment of a law prohibiting judges from issuing injunctions in labor disputes?

2. Do you favor State compulsory unemployment insurance?

3. Do you favor repeal of the sales tax and a substitution of a State income tax?

4. If the sales tax cannot be repealed, do you favor an amendment to exempt necessities of life?

5. Do you favor a substantial increase in the State inheritance tax?

6. Do you favor the repeal of the criminal syndicalism law?

7. Do you favor reapportionment so as to elect State Senators on the basis of population instead of counties?

8. What is your attitude toward the State publication of text books?

SEATTLE OFFICIALS PROTECT SHIPOWNERS' STRIKEBREAKERS

Police Back Up Scabs from University of Washington in Employers' War on Living Standards of Longshoremen.

The amazing extent to which certain types of municipal officials will go in their alliance with employers to beat down wages and impose unbearable conditions on citizens of their communities is shown in the support given strikebreakers by the officials of Seattle, Wash., when the antiunion waterside employers undertook to "open" the port of Seattle to the low-wage shipowners and their associates.

In describing this alliance between law-enforcement officials and politicians the Tacoma Labor Advocate said:

College Student Scabs

"The attempt at opening the port in Seattle was a dismal failure. With somewhere around 125 scabs, most of whom are University of Washington students and related to the shipping industry directly or indirectly, the progress in loading and unloading is taking so much time that there is little progress made in the work.

"One hundred and twenty-five men trying to do the work of 1,200 speaks for itself. Moreover, the scabs are kicking because of being docked $1 a day for quitting time, the claims nothing to brag about, and for paying exorbitant prices for smokes.

"Even the bosses admit that the work of opening the port is a fiasco. Eighty scabs quit work upon being assured of not being molested by the pickets and they said to the longshoremen that more would quit if they thought they could get away without being attacked by union men.

"Pier 40, where the principal work is being attempted in Seattle, is made over into a regular fort, with an amazing array of arms and ammunition ready to repel attack of the pickets.

Expensive Work

"It takes about 600 armed men to protect 120 at work and the cost to the city and the county are enormous.

"The strikers have made no attempt to molest anyone and content themselves with jeering at the scabs trying to do work which they don't understand. Half the number of regular union longshoremen would handle all the work the scabs are doing in much less than the twentieth of the time. Most of the scabs wish they were out of it, but the bosses have been telling them that if they quit and leave the pier they'll be put on the spot.

"The scabs are promised free quarters and food, plus the going wage of the waterfront workers prior to the 1934 agreement becoming effective. Reports, a bonus per ship loaded is also to be thrown in for good measure.

"They are promised further full police and military protection and a guarantee of work for a definite period. These promises are distrusted by the unemployed and they display an invincible reluctance to test their truth."

Detroit Trucking Concern Violates Code, Is Charge; Paid $24 for 104 Hours Work

Detroit, Mich.—Charging "repeated violation" of the wages and hours section of the NRA code for the trucking industry, Truck Drivers' Local Union No. 299 has declared a strike against the Wolverine Trucking Company of this city.

The local, which has complained to the Trucking Code Authority in writing, has affidavits, signed by two employes of the company, showing that at least one man worked "104 hours for $24," and the other "74 hours for $21.28," both violations of the code, union officers aver.

The National Trucking Code, covering the industry, became effective June 29 and each violator, who has not registered under it, is subject to a mandatory "fine of $500 for each unit operated," the Wolverine company has six trucks operating.

Teamsters Charge Rochester Company Blacklists Members of Trade Unions

Rochester, N. Y.—John Armstrong, president of the local union of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, charged the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company with violating Section 7a of the National Recovery Act in papers filed with the Buffalo Regional Labor Board.

Mr. Armstrong alleged that Sibley's refusal to employ certain men violated the right to organize, interfered with and coerced employes, and required membership in a company-dominated organization of their own choosing. Attached to the complaint were affidavits sworn to by 10 members of the union and former employes of the store.

Thousands of Dollars in Unpaid Wages Collected by California Labor Department

The vigorous work done by California Labor Commissioners in enforcing State labor laws and compelling wage payments to pay the workers their just earnings is revealed in the current report of the Commissioners.

Complaints of labor law violations totalled 2,388 in May, 1934, compared with 2,930 in May, 1933, a decrease of 536 or 20 per cent. Of the 2,388 complaints received in May, 1934, 2,142 or 89.7 per cent were complaints of violations of wage laws and 246 or 10 per cent were complaints of violations of other labor laws. In May, 1934, $50,487.84 was collected in wage claims as against $56,782.62 in May, 1933, a decrease of $5,295.78 or 14.1 per cent.

Wage claims settled in May, 1934, totaled 1,621 as compared with 1,372 in May, 1933, an increase of 249 or 18.1 per cent. The amount of unpaid wages involved in the wage claims settled in May, 1934, was $21,15.

Criminal prosecution started in May, 1934, totalled 32 as against 116 in May, 1933, a decrease of 32. During May, 1934, 46 civil suits were started to collect $15,012.40 for 139 wage claimants.

Picketing Enjoined by San Antonio Judge To Assist Notorious Low-Wage Cafe Owner

San Antonio, Tex.—The notorious injunction for the benefit of low-wage employers bobbed up in San Antonio when Judge McCrory restrained two members of the waitresses' union from carrying sandwich-boards in front of the Greek owned and managed Manhattan Cafe and ordered that the management had refused to concede to the union's employing the right of collective bargaining. The picketing was authorized by Catering Industry Local No. 211.

In commenting on the case, the Daily Dispatch, official organ of the labor movement in this city, made a paper plea for fair treatment of cafe workers by the city's public services to keep body and soul together."

"The restaurant situation in San Antonio has indeed been a very unsavory mess ever since the local Regional Labor Board, under the domination of the low-wage ruling employers of this city, made a pauper plea for that brothers' wage and the National Board allow a 30 cents an hour rate of wages.

"The decision aroused much protest from labor and civic-minded bodies, but the powers that be stifled the voice of the people, and the workers in the cafes of this city barely received enough in pay for their services to keep body and soul together."

John J. Manning, Secretary-Treasurer, AFL Union Label Trades Department, Dies

Was Prominent Advocate of State Use System of Prison Labor—Served on National Labor Board and Council of National Defense.

Washington.—John J. Manning, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor since 1917, died at his home here July 17.

Mr. Manning gave his entire life in the interest of the American labor movement, being prominent in local, State and national organizations.

He was born in Troy, N. Y., and was secretary-treasurer of the Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' Union with headquarters in Troy, and represented that organization at conventions of the American Federation of Labor.

From that organization he became affiliated with the United Garment Workers and was serving as an organizer and assistant editor of the official journal of this organization, the Garment Worker.

From the United Garment Workers of America he was promoted to the secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, at the convention of the Department, held in Baltimore, Md., June, 1917. He was a charter member of the Department and one of the first vice presidents.

While in the office of the United Garment Workers of America he was prominently associated with Samuel Gompers, being a member of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, and doing all possible to help the prisoners oppressed with the contract system and to help labor organizations that were confronted with competition from this system. Mr. Manning was an advocate of what is known as the State use system and did everything in his power to have the different States put this system in operation.

In March, 1932, he received a letter from Franklin D. Roosevelt, then Governor of New York State, expressing his appreciation of the splendid services he had rendered in connection with the activities of the Advisory Committee on Prison Industries.

He was a member of the National Labor Board and a member of the Council of National Defense and devoted a great deal of his time to this work in connection with his work at the Department. During the trying years of the World War. He also served as secretary of the Social Insurances Committee of the American Federation of Labor.

The American labor movement honored him by sending him as a fraternal delegate to the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress in 1919, and in 1930 he was sent as fraternal delegate to the British Trades Union Congress.

During the time Mr. Manning filled the office of secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, he did much to increase the membership and activities of the Department. His great interest and belief in the Department and its work made it possible for him to convince the public of the great value it was to the entire labor movement.

One of his outstanding achievements was the production of the moving picture, Labor's Reward in Series.

At all times he advocated spending money for economy for the products and services of union members, and his sincerity of purpose and love for the work was many to be envied.

Funeral services were held at St. Anthony's Church. The interment was in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine A. Manning; his sisters, May and Agnes Manning of this city; his daughter, Mrs. John W. Dyer, Jr., and two grandchildren of New York City, and his brother, Martin F. Manning, of Troy, N. Y.

AFL NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR 'FRISCO STRIKE

Green Says General Walkout Is Local Affair, with Little National Significance — Main Question Is Equitable Settlement of Industrial Conflict.

Chicago, Ill.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement here, said the A. F. of L. did not order or authorize the San Francisco general strike. He added that when the men then are engaged in a hard fight for their economic life and the preservation of their rights it is not the time for their friends to criticize their methods and thus furnish ammunition for the enemies of labor to use against them.

The text of Mr. Green's statement follows:

STRIKE IS LOCAL

"The strike in San Francisco is local in character, possessing no national significance. It originated with the workers directly involved. Through an assumption of authority growing out of certain autonomous rights conferred upon local organizations, their representatives called the strike and must accept full responsibility for this action.

AFL NOT CONSULTED

"The executive council of Labor neither ordered the strike nor authorized it. At no time has its counsel or advice been solicited or its aid requested. But even though the American Federation of Labor is not directly involved, its officers and members are deeply concerned over the existing situation and are hopeful for a speedy and satisfactory settlement.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKE DANGER

"While, unfortunately, the public mind is confused regarding the issues involved in this strike, labor generally knows and understands that if the workers in any instance fail in their sympathetic strike win, they gain a moral victory, but if they lose, they lose all.

EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT

"When working people are engaged in an economic struggle, it does not seem appropriate for their friends to engage in comment which might aid and abet the efforts of their enemies.

"At the moment, therefore, when the intense struggle is approaching a climax, it is not so much a question of the wisdom or the unwisdom of the action taken. Instead an honorable settlement of the industrial conflict upon an equitable basis should be the question of supreme concern to all fair, just and social minded people."

GLASS BOTTLE BLOWERS RE-ELECT ALL OFFICERS

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The biennial convention of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada, in session here, re-elected unanimously President James Leahy, Vice President W. W. Campbell, Secretary Harry Jenkins, Treasurer Robert G. Vansant, and all Executive Board members.

Despite the fact more than half the delegates represented newly-organized locals, the convention sessions were harmonious.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, sent a cordial telegram of greeting, which was received with great applause. All policies of the A. F. of L. were heartily endorsed by the delegates. Matthew Woll, third vice president of the American Federation of Labor, delivered an address.

The delegates were welcomed by Mayor William N. McNair, Councilman Kiskadden and Lawrence Phillips, president of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, and P. T. Fagin, president of the Pittsburgh Central Labor Union. Several other prominent speakers were in attendance.

The next convention will be held in Charleston, W. Va., in July, 1936.

ILLINOIS OLD-AGE PENSION EFFORT OUTLINED BY EVANS

Westville, Ill.—Evan Evans, of Georgetown, Ill., president of the old-age pension association of the United Mine Workers of America, gave an interesting account of the status of old-age pension legislation in Illinois in an address here before the Westville Old Age Pension Association.

Mr. Evans said that the committee of which he is president will renew its work for pensions in Illinois as soon as the State Legislature convenes. He is very hopeful for the success of the movement in Illinois next spring. He emphasized the fact that Governor Homer Favors is friendly.

In reviewing the movement for old-age pension legislation in Illinois, he related his experiences during recent sessions of the legislature. On one occasion 10 or 12 years ago, he said, the legislature was lined up to pass an old-age bill. Other labor leaders were trying to injunction limitation bill. They were told to pick their choice of the two bills; that one would have to be dropped, and the then president of the Illinois miners, together with the president of the Illinois State Federation, picked the injunction limitation bill.

S. N. BERRY, RAILWAY CONDUCTORS HEAD, DIES

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—The labor movement in the United States and Canada suffered a severe loss in the death of his honorary head of S. N. Berry, president of the Order of Railway Conductors. Assuming the presidency of the organization in 1911 upon the death of President O. P. Curtis, he was chief of the order during the severest period of its development.

Mr. Berry was the first Canadian to fill the chief executive office of the order of Railway Conductors, of which he had been a member for 42 years. He was born in Erin, Ont., in 1854, and he became a brakeman on the Canadian Pacific. He was soon promoted to conductor and ran trains in the freight and passenger service until 1866, when he was chosen as Deputy Grand Chief for the Railway Conductors in Canada, and in 1905 was made the organization's chief for the Dominion. He was elected a grand vice president in 1907 and a senior vice president in 1919.